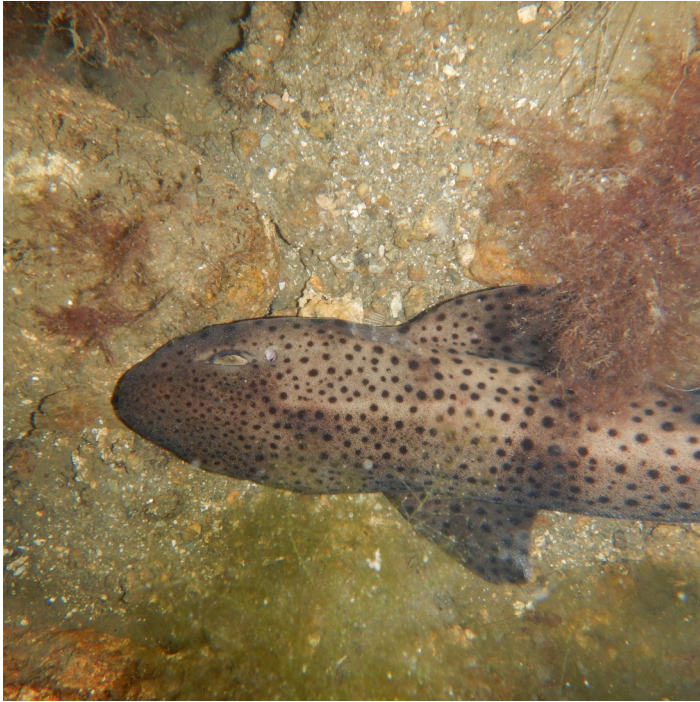


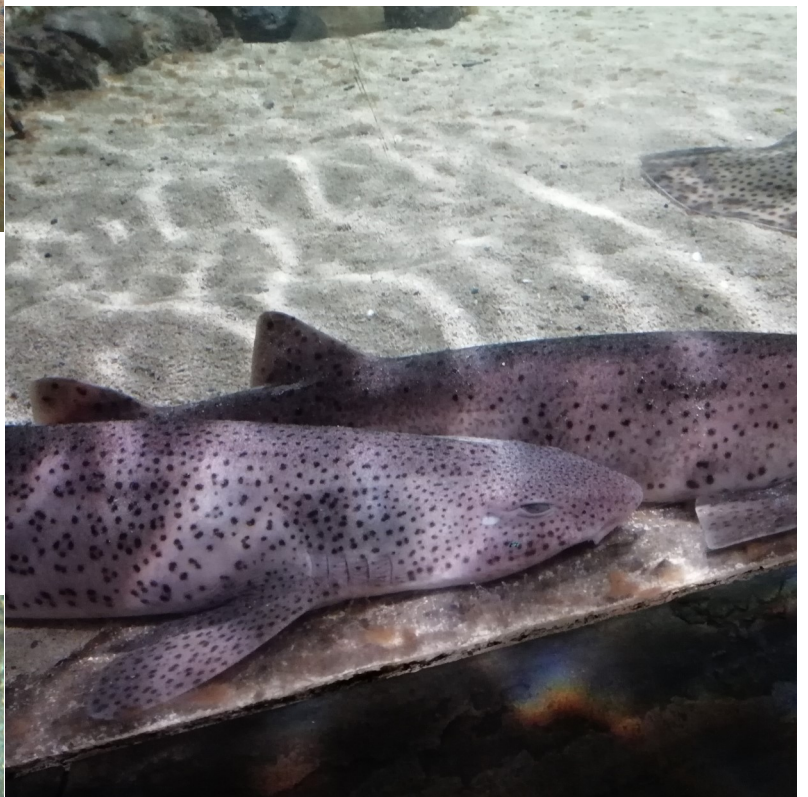
Nursehound (*Scyliorhinus stellaris*)

Chordata->Vertebrata->Elasmobranchii

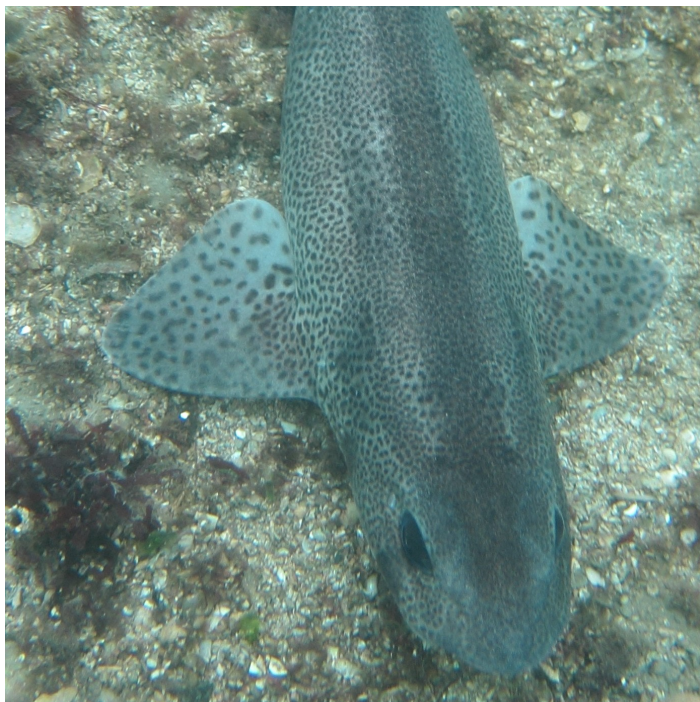


IUCN Red List Categorisation: Near Threatened

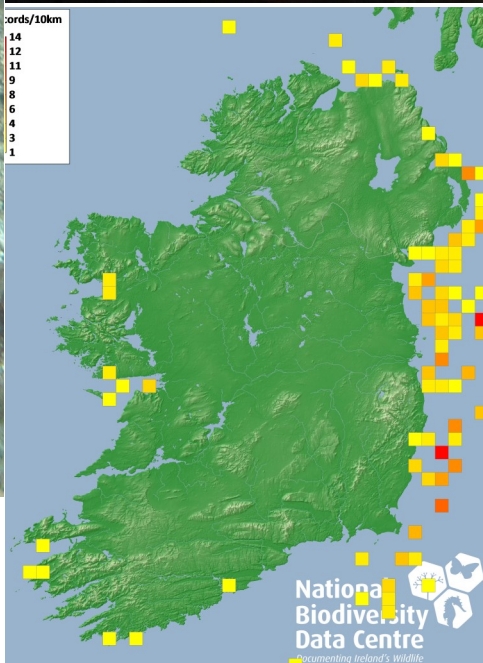
Though considered Near Threatened throughout its entire range the Irish Red List of Cartilaginous Fish classifies this species as Least Concern¹. Found throughout the north east Atlantic this species occurs from Norway to Senegal in inshore waters from 2m to below diving depths. An oviparous (egg laying) fish it tends to lay eggs in spring and is thought to show high site fidelity, returning to the same sites regularly where they may be locally abundant.



Largest catshark species likely to be seen by divers this species may be confused with the lesser spotted catshark (*S. canicula*) (bottom photo for comparison). This species grows to much larger sizes, over 1.5m, and tends to be broader when and bulkier in appearance than the *S. canicula*. However distinguishing between the two species is the difficult though generally *S. canicula* is more often seen by divers.



Generally found in rocky habitats this species is more common on the east though it is more often recorded by divers on the west coast.



1. Clarke, M., Farrell, E.D., Roche, W., Murray, T.E., Foster, S. and Marnell, F. (2016) Ireland Red List No. 11: Cartilaginous fish [sharks, skates, rays and chimaeras]. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. Dublin, Ireland.

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